

A
S C H E M E
T O
Prevent the R U N N I N G
O F
I R I S H W O O L S
T O
F R A N C E,
A N D
I R I S H W O O L L E N Goods to Foreign
C O U N T R I E S.

B Y

Prohibiting the Importation of SPANISH *Wools*
into IRELAND, and permitting the People of
IRELAND to send their *Woollen* Goods to ENG-
LAND, (not for Consumption, but Re-ex-
portation) under a Duty at Importation, to
be drawn back on Exportation from ENGLAND
to Foreign Countries.

H U M B L Y O F F E R E D

To the Consideration of PARLIAMENT.

By a M E R C H A N T of L O N D O N.

D U B L I N:

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THE CHINESE

A
S C H E M E
T O

Prevent the Running of
IRISH WOOLS to FRANCE, &c.

EXPERIENCE and long Observation have shewn us, that no Laws hitherto made, however severe, have been sufficient to prevent the People of *Ireland* from running their raw Wools to *France*, and their manufactured Goods to foreign Countries; and that nothing can effectually put a Stop to this great Evil, but making it the Interest of *Ireland* to discourage that Practice.

FOR since the *Irish* Wools, that yearly remain more than they manufacture, must somewhere find a Market; and since the *French* can afford to give more for their Wools than we can, the Landed Gentlemen of *Ireland* will ever continue to countenance this pernicious Trade, as the only one, per-
A haps,

haps, by which their Tenants are enabled to hold their Lands, and pay their Rents.

IN order to shew that the running of *Irish* Wools to *France*, and their manufactured Goods to other Countries, is inconsistent with the real Interest of *Ireland*; and to make it the Interest of *Ireland* to prevent it; in the first Place I shall consider what the State of the Woollen Manufacture of *Ireland* was thirty Years ago, and what it is at present; in the next Place I shall shew Reasons why they have so much Wools to sell to our Rivals the *French*, and propose a Scheme to prevent it; and this in such a Manner, as will be equally advantageous to *England*, and *Ireland*; without hurting our own Manufactures, prejudicing our Owners of Pasture Grounds, or lessening the Labour of our Poor.

THIRTY Years ago they manufactured in *Ireland* large Quantities of Ratteens, Friezes, and coarse Cloths of Eight, Nine, and Ten Shillings *per* Yard; the latter being the Price the best Cloths their own Wools could make, were generally sold for. The lower and middle Class of their People appear'd at that time, well dress'd in Ratteens and Friezes; the better, or richer Class, wore Cloths of Ten Shillings *per* Yard; and their Nobility and Gentry the superfine Cloths, then made in *England*.

THE

THE Importation of *Spanish* Wools into *Ireland* made an Alteration in their Manufactures; their Cloathiers attempted first, to make quarter *Spanish* Cloths, afterwards, half *Spanish* Cloths, and soon learn'd from us the Manner and Method of making whole *Spanish* Cloths.

As Riches beget Ease and Luxury, so as the Country of *Ireland* was improved, their People grew more pompous in Dress, and more expensive in Equipage. The lower Class, who were formerly well dressed in Ratteens and Frizes, despise that cloathing now, and purchase Cloths mixt with *Spanish* Wools; and the middle Class, together with their Nobility and Gentry, wear no Cloths, but such as are manufactured of all *Spanish* Wools; by which the *Irish* Cloathiers at present are, for the most Part, become Manufacturers of *Spanish* Cloths, and they make few Cloths; but such as are for the Liveries for Sevants; there being no demand for Cloths of Eight, Nine, and Ten Shillings *per* Yard, into which their own Wools were formerly largely manufactured.

As by discouraging the Manufactures of such Cloths, great Quantities of *Irish* Wools do yearly remain in that Kingdom, the Scheme I propose, shall be to engage the People of *Ireland* to manufacture more of their own Wools, send less of them to *France*,

and more of their spinning to *England*; and this I shall endeavour to enforce, by proving it not only consistent with their own Interest, but the surest Way to extend and advance it.

IN the Prosecution of this Plan, I shall equally consider the Advantage of both Countries; that our Manufacturers and Land-Owners may have nothing to oppose, and the People of *Ireland* every Encouragement, that can induce them to prevent the running their Wools to *France*, and their manufactured Goods to foreign Countries.

SINCE it evidently appears that the Importation of *Spanish* Wools into *Ireland* has been the Cause of their Cloathiers manufacturing less of their own Wools, and consequently having the more to sell to *France*; I would propose an immediate Prohibition of *Spanish* Wools into *Ireland*. When that is done, their Manufacturers will return to their former Method and Manner of making such Cloths, as the Wools of that Kingdom will produce, and the Spirit for encouraging the Manufactures made in *Ireland*, which so visibly appears in their *Dublin* Society, will engage them to give Præmiums to those, who make the best Cloth of *Irish* Wools, and not the best Piece of Cloth manufactured of *Spanish*.

I WOULD further propose, that the People

ple of *Ireland* be permitted to export their own woollen manufactured Goods.

BUT as there are many good Reasons why they should not send their Woollen Goods directly from *Ireland* to our Plantations abroad, or to other foreign Countries, which we trade to, I would propose limiting the Exportation of their Woollen Goods to *Great Britain* only; not to be sold for Consumption in *England*, but for Exportation from *England* to such foreign Countries as the Proprietors, or Buyers shall think proper.

AND, in order to prevent the Expence to this Kingdom, that would attend the erecting and keeping proper Warehouses, and the multiplying of Revenue Officers for receiving and discharging such Woollen Goods, as the People of *Ireland* may send us; and also to prevent the Sale and Consumption of such Woollen Goods in *England*, to the Prejudice of our own Manufacturers, Landlords of Pasture Grounds, and the lessening the Labour of our own Poor; I would propose, that a Duty be laid on all *Irish* Woollen Goods at Importation from *Ireland*, which Duty should be drawn back upon Exportation to foreign Countries only; by which the Warehouses of the Merchants in *England* will become the proper Places for receiving all such Woollen Goods, as shall be imported

from *Ireland*, and the Duties paid at Importation will be a sufficient Security to *England*, that such Goods shall not be wore or consumed in *England*, to the Prejudice of our own Manufactures.

I AM quite sensible, that if I undertake to make it the Interest of the People of *Ireland* to prevent the running their Wools to *France*, and to manufacture them fully, either for their own Wear, or for Exportation to *England*, I must make it the Interest of *England* to receive the Goods manufactured in *Ireland*; for the Union I propose must be agreeable to both Kingdoms, otherwise I cannot expect the Success that I wish for.

IN order therefore, to make this Scheme agreeable to the Land-Owners of *Ireland*, I shall consider the Advantages arising to *Ireland* by the manufacturing of one Year's Importation of *Spanish* Wools, and the Advantage she will have by manufacturing one Year's Produce of her own Wools; also the Gain that will accrue to *Ireland* by prohibiting of *Spanish* Wools, and by a free Exportation to *England* of ~~such~~ Woollen Goods, as she may manufacture more than are absolutely necessary for her own Consumption.

The *Spanish* Wools imported into *Ireland*, from the 25th of *March* 1743, to *March* the 25th 1744, were One Hundred
Twenty.

Twenty-eight Thousand and Eighty-sixuttle Pounds,——which I compute to be about Five Hundred and Seventy Bags.

I SHALL suppose each Bag of Wool sufficient to make four Pieces of *Spanish* Cloths. Then the Cloths manufactured were Two Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty, which, upon Average, being worth Twenty Pounds each Cloth, the Produce of the Year's Importation of *Spanish* Wools will amount to

—— £. 45,600.

It is computed, that in Woollen Manufactures, four Fifths of the Value of the Goods, when finished for Sale are given to the Labour of the People; therefore, I shall suppose, that of this

—— £. 45,600.

There was paid to the Labour of the People,

—— £. 36,480.

And to *Spain* for the Wool, &c.

—— £. 9,120.

To make one Piece of *Spanish* Cloth, compleatly finished for Sale, will take up three Months; it is seldom finished in less Time; the Manufacture is so tedious, that some of the People employed are often obliged to wait for Work, while others are finishing their Parts; as may be supposed by the following Table, which I received from an eminent Clothier, on whose Veracity I can depend.

To

To make one Piece of *Spanish* Cloth will employ,

	Men.	Women.	Boys.	Days.
Dying.	1	0	0	1
Beating and picking.	0	2	0	4
Scribling.	2	0	0	5
Spinning the Chain	0	8	0	7
Spinning the Woof.	0	8	0	7
Winding the Chain.	0	3	0	1
Warping, winding Quils, and weaving.	2	0	1	24
Spinning the Lift.	0	2	0	2
Burling.	0	2	0	4
Milling.	1	0	0	1
Dreßing.	4	0	0	5

By this Table it appears, in how many Days less than three Months, the Poor employed in this Manufacture finish their several Parts. Therefore it is highly probable that several of them are often idle for want of Work, unless the Master Clothier be a Man of a large Capital, and is able to carry on his Manufactory, so as to find them Employment all the Year. This I cannot suppose to be the Case of the Clothiers of *Ireland*, whose Funds, I am inform'd, are small, and their Ambition to make *Spanish* Cloth so great, that they give their Spinners and Weavers, who are employed on *Spanish* Wools, one third Part more Wages than they give to those employed on the *Irish*.

Now

Now the same People, that are employed in this Table, in manufacturing one Cloth made of *Spanish* Wool, are absolutely requisite in manufacturing a Cloth made of *Irish*; and they can finish such a Cloth in two Months, as compleatly as they can a Cloth made of *Spanish* in three; therefore, if fully employed, can work up half as many more Yards of Cloth in one Year, as an equal Number can do, who are wholly employed in manufacturing of *Spanish*. Besides, as coarse Wools may be worked up into Goods of various Kinds, and the Wool so disposed of, as to give Employment at any Time to a greater Number of Hands, than the like Value of *Spanish* Wools can employ; all Manufactures of coarse Wools can be finish'd with greater Dispatch.

Therefore since the Wealth of a Nation is increased by the Number of the Poor it employs, and the Quantity of the Product of the Lands they consume;

I shall consider what Number of the Poor of *Ireland* Nine Thousand One Hundred and Twenty Pounds Value in *Spanish* Wools will employ, and what Number of Poor the Wools of *Ireland*, valued at Twelve Shillings the great Stone, containing Sixteen Pounds, will employ and subsist.

I have made the best Enquiry I was capable of, and find that the Wools *Ireland* yearly produces

produces are computed at Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Stones, of Sixteen Pound to the Stone; some think they are less, but no Accounts, that I have received from any Part of that Kingdom, say more.

I shall therefore consider the Wools of that Kingdom under the highest Estimation that I have received, and shew what that Quantity of Wool would produce, if worked up for their own Consumption, or for Exportation to *England*; and what Loss that Kingdom sustains yearly by neglecting the manufacturing her own Wools, encouraging the Manufacture of *Spanish*, and running her raw Wools to *France*.

I SHALL likewise shew the Gain that would arise to that Kingdom, if their own Wools were fully manufactured by their own People.

I SHALL suppose the Medium Price of the Wools of *Ireland* to be twelve Shillings the Stone of Sixteen Pounds; then Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Stones at Twelve Shillings the Stone, is

—£. 288,000,

If Ten Pounds Value in Wools, when compleatly manufactured for Sale, is worth Fifty Pounds, the Value of the yearly Wools of *Ireland*, when work'd up, must be

—£. 1,440,000

If four Fifths of this Sum be paid to the working People for Labour, and the remaining

maining Fifth be paid to the Rents of the Kingdom for the Produce of their Sheep, the earned Money of the Poor of that Country, in working up the yearly Produce will amount to —£. 1,152,000. and they will work up as much of the Product of the Kingdom as amounts to

—£. 288,000.

CONSEQUENTLY, *Ireland* will gain yearly, by the manufacturing of her own Wools

—£. 1,152,000.

AND,

By the manufacturing the whole Year's Importation of *Spanish* Wools, she can only gain

—£. 36,486.

To earn which Sum she must yearly pay to *Spain* —£. 9,120,

and have numbers of her Poor idly supported by high Wages, to make them amends for

he many Days the manufacturing of *Spanish* Wools leaves them unemployed.

It is very difficult to compute the exact Number of Poor that the Wools of a Country if worked up amongst themselves, would employ and subsist. But as most working People earn no more than what is sufficient to maintain them comfortably, I am of Opinion that the finding out the Quantity and Value of any kind of Goods manufactured in a Country, and the Value of the common annual Subsistence of a Manufacturer,

is the best Way of judging of the Number of working People subsisted by that Manufacture.

I SHALL therefore suppose that the common annual Subsistence of working Men, Women and Children, in *Ireland*, may be purchased at a Medium for Ten Pounds *per Annum*, and that Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Stones of the Wools of *Ireland* when fully manufactured, are worth

£. 1,440,000.
Then the Number of Poor, subsisted by the manufacturing the yearly Produce of the Wools, of *Ireland*, will be One Hundred Forty-four Thousand People.

I SHALL next consider how many of the Poor of *Ireland* are subsisted by the manufacturing *Spanish* Wools, admitting that they are not, during the whole Year, one Day unemploy'd; and that they manufactured the whole Importation of *Spanish* Wools in the Year 1743, which was much larger than any Quantity they ever imported in one Year into that Kingdom.

I COMPUTED that Five Hundred Seventy Baggs of *Spanish* Wool, when fully manufactured for Sale, would amount to

£. 45,600.
Therefore by that Computation, the Poor employed and subsisted by that Manufacture can be no more than Four Thousand, Five Hundred and Sixty People. IT

It is, therefore, obvious that *Ireland* loses immensely every Year by encouraging the Manufacture of *Spanish* Cloths, discouraging the manufacturing her own Wools, and sending, or selling her valuable unmanufactured Wools to *France*. To these Causes we must ascribe the Number of Poor that are now in the Places of Manufacture in *France*, where on account of Religion, as well as Skill, they have met with Protection and Encouragement.

If the industrious Poor are compelled to quit their Country for want of Employment, the Gentlemen of *Ireland* must lose their former Markets for the Product of their Lands. The Loss will be greater to the landed than the trading Interest; Gentlemen must abate of their Rents; for it is the Employment of the Poor that must keep them up to their Value. If the Tenants want Markets for the Product of their Lands, they will be forced to throw them on their Landlords Hands; since Plenty of Provisions, and other Produce of the Lands will always lower the Price; and while they encourage the manufacturing *Spanish* Cloths, which has evidently obliged numberless Poor to quit that Country, or come to the Lands for their Maintainance, the Price of their Beef, Butter, &c. will be low; but the Value of their Lands must rise,

rise, as the Manufacture of *Irish* Wools is encouraged, and as the greater Numbers of their Poor are employed. Therefore a Trade with *England*, for such woollen Goods, as *Ireland* may manufacture more than are requisite for her own Consumption, must be of the greatest Advantage to that Kingdom. It will encourage them to work up yearly their surplus Wools, and employ the Number of Poor already mentioned. What the Cloths, which they may export, will produce more than the Cost of the Wool, will be a Gain to their national Stock; and the greater Number of Manufactures that are employed will be so much earned Money to that Country; the Price of whose Labour will circulate among themselves, and be a means of improving their Lands.

IF Manufacturers are Riches to a Country, how valuable must that Manufacture be, that is capable of employing and subsisting yearly One Hundred and Forty-four Thousand of the Poor! and how little valuable is that Manufacture, that employs but Four Thousand Five Hundred and Sixty, and occasions a much greater Number to quit the Country for want of Employment, or to be a Charge to it for their Maintenance! Such a Manufacture ought to be considered as a Nuisance, and not an Advantage to a Nation.

EVERY

EVERY Manufacturer in *England* and *Ireland* is reckoned to be in himself a Market to the Product of the Lands of Ten Pounds *per Annum*, for his Maintainance, and to the Rents, of One Pound *per Annum*, for his Lodging. — Consequently every Manufacturer employ'd in *Ireland* is a Gain of Eleven Pounds *per Annum*, to that Kingdom; and every one that is driven out of that Country, for want of Employment, or obliged to be maintain'd by the Parish, may be said to be Eleven Pounds *per Annum*, Loss.

THEREFORE if Encouragement to manufacture *Irish* Wools will keep up the Price of the Product of the Lands of *Ireland* (as Consumption of all Commodities necessarily causes the Advance of Prices); if it will bring home numberless Manufacturers, who have found Employment in other Countries, and enable their Poor to maintain themselves, who are now a Charge to the several Parishes they belong to; if it will encrease the Employment and Subsistence of their Poor; it must be the Interest of *Ireland* to manufacture her own Wools, prohibit the Importation of *Spanish* Wools, and discountenance and prevent the running their raw Wools to *France*, which must ever be detrimental to the woollen

B

Manufactures

Manufactures of both *England* and *Ireland*.

If the Union proposed between *England* and *Ireland*, with respect to a Liberty of exporting to *England* such woollen Goods as *Ireland* shall manufacture, should be agreeable to both Kingdoms, I am convinced no Gentleman in *Ireland* will consent to the running of raw Wools to *France*. If he is able to procure but a Nursery of Spinners upon his Estate; the Produce of their Labour (tho' of all Labour on Wools the most sparingly paid for) will keep up the Price of the Product of his Lands, which will be much more advantageous to him than what he can possibly gain by permitting the Wools that grow on his Lands to be sold or sent into *France*.

If this Union should not be agreeable to both Kingdoms, and that the People of *Ireland* shall be obliged to wear (as they now are) what woollen Goods they manufacture, I am of Opinion, I have fully shew'd that it is not the Interest of that Kingdom to wear *Spanish* Cloths, if manufactured in *Ireland*, which must bring such Numbers of their Poor to the Parish for Subsistence, or oblige them to quit the Country, for want of Employment, who might be subsisted by their Labour on *Irish* Wools,

Wools, without any Charge to the Landed Interest.

FOR, if such of their Poor as could not be employ'd in manufacturing their Wools fully, were encouraged to spin their surplus Wools for Exporation to *England*, their Poor might be employ'd and subsisted; since it is evident, by the Price we have paid them of late for their spinning, that the Labour of the Comber and Spinner is equal to the first Cost of the Wool; and as *England* has taken last Year upwards of Eighty Thousand Stones of their Yarns, (as shall be shewn in its place) the Poor of *Ireland* have earned Forty-eight Thousand Pounds by their spinning, and we have paid them the like Sum of Forty-eight Thousand Pounds for the Wool, which will appear from the following Computation. A Ball of Wool consists of one Pound and Half of Combed Wool, which at Twelve Shillings *per* Stone of sixteen Pounds, costs Thirteen-Pence Half-penny, when spun into Skains of Yarn, is sold from Two Shillings and Threepence, to Three Shillings *per* Ball according to the Number of Skains into which it is spun.

I SHALL take the lowest Price for my Valuation. If, therefore, a Ball of Wool, that costs but Thirteenpence Half-penny, when spun into Yarn, is sold for Two Shil-

lings, and Threepence; it appears that the Money earn'd by the Comber and Spinner is equal to the first Cost of the Wool.—

Therefore if the Poor of *Ireland* were employ'd to manufacture their surplus Wools, no farther than thro' the Hands of the Combers and Spinners, Numbers might be maintain'd, and *Ireland* would become a Nursery for *England*, (but never can be so, while her Poor are engrossed by the high Prices now given for the spinning of *Spanish* Wools,) and the Landed Interest of *Ireland* would be considerable Gainers by their Poor being so far employ'd, since it must greatly benefit a Nation, to be saved from the Charge of maintaining its Poor.

THE Gentlemen of *Ireland* may imagine they receive their Rents from their Tenents; but it is the Consumer that pays them both the Price of their Wools, and of the Product of their Lands.

If their Artificers and Manufacturers are obliged to quit the Country, for want of Employment, the Consumption of the Product must be greatly lessened; therefore all prudent Ways ought to be tried, to keep those at home, that are willing to work, and to induce them to return, who have been obliged to seek for Subsistence abroad.

EVERY one, who lives in that Country, and wears the Manufactures of *Irish* Wools, ought

ought to be considered for what he wears, eats and drinks, as a Tenant to the Lands, and a Pay-master to the Workmen.

How many such Tenants the Gentlemen of *Ireland* may keep in that Country, and how many old ones they may prevail on to return, by discouraging the running of their Wools to *France*, encouraging the manufacturing their own, and prohibiting the Importation of *Spanish*, I have endeavour'd to shew; which I shall submit to the Consideration of the Gentlemen of that Kingdom.

I SHALL next consider the Advantages *England* will have, by consenting to the Importation of such woollen Goods, as *Ireland* shall send us, under a Duty at Importation, to be drawn back only on Exportation to foreign Countries.

THE Accounts that were published the Year after the Peace of *Utrecht*, of the great Quantities of *Irish* Wools, that were run out of *Ireland*, and imported, in one Year, into *France*, so alarm'd our Manufacturers and Landed Gentlemen of *England*, that we have ever since endeavour'd to make the most effectual Laws to prevent the Exportation of the Wools of that Country, and are now at a great annual Expence by the many Ships station'd on the Coasts of *Ireland* for that Purpose; but notwithstanding have been unwilling to receive any Proposals, that have
been

been offer'd to the Consideration of Parliament, to prevent this Evil, if such Proposals had the least Tendency to a free Liberty of Exportation of the woollen manufactured Goods of that Kingdom.

HOWEVER just our Apprehensions were thirty Years ago, there is not the least room for them now; since *Ireland* does not produce, at present, two Thirds of the Wools, that were supposed to be the Growth of the Country at that Time.

THE Decrease of their Sheep has been owing, not only to the very great Danger and Difficulty the People of *Ireland* found in sending their Wools to *France*, under the severe Laws we made to prevent it, but to several Acts of Parliament, which have been made in that Kingdom since the Year 1714.

By the Act to encourage Tillage, every Farmer in *Ireland* is obliged to plough a certain Number of Acres, in every Hundred, which he holds by Lease. This Obligation, together with the great Difficulty and Risque in sending their Wools to *France*, obliged many People to plough up their Pasture Grounds, which lessen'd their Sheep throughout the Kingdom; for they found a certain Market for their Corn, instead of an uncertain one for their Wool.

THE

THE several Acts for encouraging the Linnen Manufactures of that Kingdom have been another Cause of lessening the Growth of their Wools; since it is well known, that they have no more Sheep in the North of *Ireland*, where that Manufacture is established, than are sufficient for the necessary Subsistence of the People.

THESE Considerations should entirely remove our former Apprehensions, and convince us, that they cannot have the Quantity of Wools, which they had before these Acts of Parliament were made.

WE ought to examine, what the Wools of that Country are at present, and what we have to fear if the Wools, which their own People cannot consume in Apparel, were fully manufactured, and exported to us, and from hence exported to such foreign Countries, as we trade to.

WE are very certain, that we may grow less considerable in foreign Markets, but cannot be more so, while the *French* continue to procure the Wools of *Ireland*; and since we have made so many Laws to prevent it, and that it is evident they have been ineffectual, we should try other Ways and Means to stop the Evil, we have so long complained of. For, since by long Experience we find, that the People of *Ireland* are not, by any Laws, to be forced from this
pernicious

pernicious Practice of selling their Wools to *France*, and that neither Punishments nor Penalties can prevent it, I am clearly of opinion, our Condition cannot be worse than it is at present, if we permit them to send us such woollen Goods, as they shall manufacture, for Exportation, which will effectually put a stop to their sending or selling to *France*; because they will then find it more their own Interest to prevent it, than it is now their Interest to connive at and encourage it.

THE many Creecks, and By-places on the Coast of *Ireland* are so well known to the *French*, that their Agents; notwithstanding the many Difficulties that attend it, will be always able to procure a Loading of Wool; for, the Farmer, whose Lands lie contiguous to the Sea, will be as ready to sell, as the *French* are to buy. But, these Temptations will cease, if the Farmer finds that he can have a Market near his own Home for his Wools, when spun only; because, the *French* can give no Price for the small Quantity of Wool, that he has to sell, that can be equal to the Advantage the Farmer will have by its being so far manufactured.

SINCE the Declaration of War against *Spain*, the Wools of *Ireland* have sold at

a much higher Price than they were ever known at before. When they exceed Ten Shillings *per* Stone of sixteen Pounds, our Manufactures cannot afford to purchase them. But as the prohibiting the Importation of *Spanish* Wools into *Ireland*, will occasion a greater Plenty of their Spinning, we may be certain of having more of their surplus Wools, so far manufactured, and thereby lessen the Quantity, they would otherwise fully manufacture themselves. We do not buy their Spinning for its Fineness, (our own People spin much finer) but on account of its Nature and Quality. It is very useful to our Weavers, in mixing with our own Spinning, and making several sorts of Goods for foreign Markets; and on that account only we buy it. But if we cannot take from them, in spinning, such Wools as they have more than are requisite for the cloathing of their own People, we must give them leave to export, fully manufactured, what they cannot consume; or, the *French* will certainly take from them their Wools unmanufactured. They are not (as we are) limited by Price; for by the help of one Pack of *Irish* Wools, *France* manufactures two of her own, without which they are useless to her for foreign Markets, notwithstanding the Wools she procures from *Germany*, *Portugal*, *Barbary*, and *Turkey*.

THE Wools of *France* are short and coarse; they are not (to speak in a Manufacturer's Phrase) so fine in the Thread, or so long in the Staple as those of *Ireland*; for which Reason, *France* can ever give double the Price that we can afford for the Wools of that Country; which I shall shew more fully hereafter. This proves, how dangerous an Enemy we have to encounter, and that nothing can prevent *France* from buying them, but making it the Interest of *Ireland* to manufacture their Wools, which engages me to think, that the best Law that can be made, to prevent *France* from procuring the Wools of *Ireland*, will be, to permit the People of that Country to send their manufactured woollen Goods to *England*, under a Duty at Importation, to be drawn back on Exportation to foreign Countries.

I HAVE already shewn the Quantity of Wool, by Estimation, that *Ireland* yearly produces, and what Value these Wools may be manufactured into by their own People, if the Importation of *Spanish* Wool is prohibited. I shall now consider what Number of People there are in that Kingdom, what their own Consumption must be of the Wools they may manufacture, what Quantity of Wool we have taken from them last Year, how much in woollen Yarn,

Yarn, and how much in worsted Yarn, and to what Value the Surplus Wools of *Ireland*, if fully manufactured, will amount. The Exportation to *England* of this last Article, is the whole we have to fear from the Union proposed, which I shall shew cannot be manufactured into such a Quantity of Cloth, or other Woolen Goods, as will prejudice *England* to receive, for Exportation. On the contrary, I am of Opinion, the Encouragement to manufacture and export it, will be the Means of encreasing and extending our Commerce.

THE People of *Ireland* are computed at One Million Six Hundred Sixty-six Thousand. I shall suppose the one Half of their People to be Men and Boys, and the other Half Women and Girls; and that every Man and every Boy in *Ireland* wears, or is the Occasion of consuming, the Value of Twenty Shillings of Woolen Goods yearly; and that every Woman and every Girl wears, or is the Occasion of consuming, Five Shillings in woolen Goods yearly.

THEN, Eight Hundred Thirty-three Thousand Men and Boys at Twenty Shillings
per

per Annum, will consume in *Irish* Wool-
en Goods £. 833,000

AND Eight Hundred Thirty-three Thou-
sand Women and Girls at Five Shillings
per Annum 208,250

THEREFORE, the Amount of Woolen
Goods, wore in Apparel and consumed
in Furniture of such Houses as they in-
habit, will be 1,041,250

As the richer Kind of People in *Ireland* are
buried in Woolens, according to Act of
Parliament, I shall allow for Burials in
Woolens 20,000

£. 1,061,250

THEN, if all the Wools *Ireland* yearly pro-
duces were fully manufactured, and that
England took from them neither raw
Wools, Worsted or Woolen Yarns, the
Value of the surplus Wools fully manu-
factured would be

£. 378,750

Total £. 1,440,000
I FIND

I FIND we have imported from *Ireland* from
March 25, 1743, to March 25, 1744,

In raw Wools	— great Stones	19,993
In worsted Yarn		68,622
In Woolen Yarn		15,224
	Stones	103,839

IF we take yearly the same Quantity
of unmanufactured Wools, Worsted and
Woolen Yarns, that we have done last Year,
which I shall compute only at One Hun-
dred Thousand great Stones, we shall pre-
vent their fully manufacturing as much of
the Wools of *Ireland* as I have computed,
when fully manufactured by themselves,
would amount to £. 300,000

THEREFORE, admitting there is no Ob-
jection to the Value in Woolen Goods,
which I have computed to be the yearly
Consumption of the People of *Ireland*,
not only in Apparel, but in Bedding,
House Furniture, and Burials, all the
Woolen Goods *Ireland* can fully manu-
facture for Exportation will amount to no
more than

£. 78,750

IN order to remove the Apprehensions that may arise in our Clothiers and Manufacturers, that this Value in *Irish* Woolen Goods, if exported to *England* for Re-exportation to foreign Countries, may hurt the Sale of our own Manufactures abroad; I shall consider, what Value in Woolen Goods *France* will be prevented from vending at foreign Markets which she now supplies, by procuring the surplus Wools of *Ireland*, that may be manufactured into that Sum.

I SHALL suppose, that *France* has been able to procure yearly no more *Irish* Wools than, when fully manufactured, I have computed would produce this Seventy-eight Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty Pounds, which I calculate at Seventeen Hundred and Fifty Packs of Two Hundred Forty Pounds Weight each. —

I SHALL likewise suppose, that what *France* purchases are the best *Irish* Wools, for which she pays Sixteen Shillings the great Stone, (at which Price the fine Wools of that Country were sold last Year) and that all Risques, Hazards, Insurances and Freights being accounted for, those Wools, when landed

landed in *France*, cost the Manufacturer Twenty Shillings per Stone.

By the best Information I could get in *France*, I have learnt that their People manufacture two Packs of their own Wools by the Help of one Pack of *Irish*. I shall therefore suppose their own Wools worth Five Shillings the great Stone, and when mixed with *Irish* Wools at Twenty Shillings the Stone, that the Manufacturer in *France* has three Packs of Wools at Ten Shillings the Stone Medium Price.

I HAVE computed that the surplus Wools of *Ireland*, which *France* now procures, are Seventeen Hundred Fifty Packs, which make in great Stones of Sixteen Pound to the Stone

Stones 26,250

To which I shall add double that Quantity of *French* Wools, which the Manufacturers of *France* work up by the Help of this Quantity of *Irish*

52,500

Total Stones 78,750

THEREFORE, the *French* Manufacturers, by the Help of Twenty-six Thousand Two

Two Hundred and Fifty Stones of *Irish* Wools, have seventy-eight Thousand seven Hundred and Fifty Stones of Wools proper for such Manufactures as we carry on; which Wools, on an Average, will cost them only Ten Shillings per Stone. Then seventy-eight Thousand seven Hundred and Fifty Stones, at Ten Shillings per Stone, cost the Manufacturer in *France* £. 39,375

AND when fully manufactured for Sale, allowing for Labour, as I have done on the like Value of Wools manufactured in *England*, the Amount will be £. 196,875

IF these Calculations are just, it plainly appears, that we have nothing to fear from giving *Ireland* a Liberty of exporting to *England* such manufactued Woolen Goods, as her own People cannot consume; since by encouraging *Ireland*, we shall prevent *France* from procuring her Wools, who thereby is enabled to supply the foreign Markets with Goods of her own Manufacture, to the Value of £. 196,875

IF *France* can send to foreign Markets such considerable Quantities of woolen Goods, by procuring seventeen Hundred and

and Fifty Packs of *Irish* Wools, of what Consequence ought those Wools to be to *England*! And since we know that such a Quantity, and a much greater, may be sent yearly out of *England*, we should endeavour to prevent the running of it from *England*, as well as *Ireland*; which I am far from thinking an impossible Scheme.

If the preventing the running of this Quantity of *Irish* Wools will enable us to send to foreign Markets as much woolen Goods, as will, when manufactured, be worth One Hundred Ninety-six Thousand Eighty Hundred and seventy-five Pounds, more than we now export; I am humbly of Opinion, we ought to make a new Experiment, and consent to the People of *Ireland*'s sending their manufactured woolen Goods to *England*; for we may be certain of manufacturing, and vending more Cloth, and other woolen Goods, as the *French* are deprived of the Means of supplying the foreign Demands. And as all the Goods, that the surplus Wools of *Ireland* can be manufactured into, will not amount to one Half of what *France* will be prevented from supplying, we must furnish the Rest from our own Manufactures. And if *France*

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has been able to procure a larger Quantity of *Irish* Wools, yearly, than I have supposed, we shall be able to manufacture so much the greater Quantity for foreign Markets as she is obliged to manufacture the less.

WE have nothing to fear from any Encouragement we give *Ireland* to manufacture, if we can prevent the *French* from procuring the Wools of that Country; for when the Plague raged at *Marseilles*, the Demands for woolen Goods, from foreign Countries, were so large, that the Wools of both *England* and *Ireland* were insufficient to supply them; which plainly shewed how largely *France* had been concerned in the Markets abroad, and what a Quantity of her own coarse Wools she must have worked up, by the Help and Assistance of the Wools of that Kingdom.

THE Camblets of *Ireland* are Goods the *Portugese* have been a long Time accustomed to wear, and that they will have, and do procure these Goods from *Ireland*, appears from the Ships we have very lately taken, bound with such Goods to *Portugal*;
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and the *Irish* will continue that Trade, notwithstanding our Guard-ships, and the Encouragement our Commanders of Men of War have to search, unless we make it their own Interest to discourage it. All that our Manufacturers have been able to do, has not been sufficient to prevail with *Portugal* to approve of the Camblets we make. I am convinced, the Consumption of that Article would be greatly encreased there, if the People of *Ireland* were permitted to export those Camblets to us, under a Duty at Importation, to be drawn back on Exportation from *England*; their Profit would be more certain than it can be at present, and it would put a stop to all Attempts to run such Goods for the future, and be a great Encouragement to their working up more of their surplus Wools, and consequently of lessening the Temptation of selling them to *France*. Our Merchants would have a Commission on receiving and forwarding, perhaps on Sales; our Packers would have the Benefit of repacking, and our Ships of carrying.

If it be objected, that the Exportation of such other woolen Goods, as *Ireland* may send us, will interfere with the Exportation

of our own; I am of Opinion it cannot. For if *France* be prevented from procuring the Wools of *Ireland*, there will be a Demand in foreign Markets, not only for the same Quantity of woollen Goods, which we now supply, but for as much more as *France* did formerly supply; and we shall sell, not only to the Amount of what I have computed the surplus Wools of *Ireland* may be manufactured into, but also near double that Value, which *France* would have been able to sell of her own manufactured Wools, by the Help of the surplus Wools of that Kingdom.

If it be objected, that when the Duties laid on the *Irish* woollen Goods at Importation, are drawn back on the Exportation from *England*, that the *Irish* woollen Goods can be sold cheaper in foreign Markets, than Goods of the same Kind, manufactured in *England*, by reason of the Cheapness of Provisions, and low Price of Labour in *Ireland*; I answer, That we shall have in our own Hands a Remedy, when it is convenient to use it, by permitting such Goods to draw back only a Part of the Duties paid at Importation, as we find can be sold cheaper in foreign Markets. By which we shall bring
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the Value of such *Irish* woollen Goods upon a Par with our own, on Exportation from *England*; so that there will be no Temptation to the Buyers for Exportation to take the one before the other.

IF it be objected, that the People of *Ireland* will encrease their Sheep, when they have Liberty to export what they manufacture, and that they may send us too great a Quantity of their woollen Goods for Re-exportation; I answer, That it must be some Years before they can effect it; and if they should so encrease their Sheep, as to be able to export double the Quantity, that I have computed their present surplus Wools may be manufactured into, for Exportation, that Quantity will not exceed what *France* now sells, by the Help of the surplus Wools of that Country; therefore we must continue to sell the same Quantity we now send abroad.

AGAIN, if it be objected, that should the People of *Ireland* have Liberty to export what they manufacture, they will sell us no more of their Wools, or woollen or worsted Yarn; and that instead of their having but Seventy-eight Thousand Seven Hundred
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and Fifty Pounds Value to export, they will export the whole Value that I have computed their surplus Wools might be manufactured into. I am of Opinion, we have little to fear from this Objection; for there will be always in *England* and *Ireland* as many People on the Trade of buying the Wools and Yarns (for which we pay ready Money) as there will be Purchasers of their Wools, fully manufactured, which if sent here, to be sold for Exportation, must be on long Credit, and if sent abroad on their own Accounts will be subject to uncertain Sales, and as uncertain Payments. Besides, if there should be Occasion, their Wools may be made cheaper to us, and their woollen Goods loaded with a Duty at Exportation from *Ireland* to *England*.

WE pay for a Licence (together with Fees) to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, for every Thousand great Stones of Wool, exported to *England* about Twenty-three Pounds. If the *Irish* Wools were exported to Us, free of this Charge, our Manufacturers might purchase the Wools of *Ireland*, at all Times, near Five per Cent. cheaper than they now can, or hitherto have done; and in Lieu of this Income,
which

which belongs to the Lord Lieutenant of *Ireland*, the Parliament of that Kingdom may fix a Duty on all woollen Goods, fully manufactured, on Exportation to *England*.

THIS would, in some Measure, prevent their sending us too much of their Wools, fully manufactured, and enable us to purchase more of their raw Wools.

NEW Experiments must be made; the People of *Ireland* must find a Market for their surplus Wools, manufactured, or unmanufactured, or we cannot effectually distress *France*, enlarge our foreign woollen Trade, or indeed be certain of supplying them ourselves with such Goods as we now manufacture. I will admit, that from the Cheapness of Provisions, and low Price of Labour in *Ireland*, their Poor are able to work cheaper than ours. They are not in *Ireland*, bound by any Parliamentary Laws to provide for, and maintain for Life, reduced and decayed Housekeepers, and disabled and superannuated Servants, as the People of *England* are, which obliges their Poor to work for less Prices than ours.

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NOTWITHSTANDING, I am of Opinion, we have little to fear from their being able to undersel us abroad; for though most of the Goods they manufacture are worked up cheaper than ours, yet the Advantages we have of them in dying better Colours, pressing, tilleting, and packing our Goods, will balance, in most foreign Markets, the Advantage they may have of us, with respect to their low Price for Labour.

BESIDES, the Freight of their woollen Goods from *Ireland* to *England*, the Insurance, the Inland Carriage to proper Places for Sale, the Charge of Warehouse room, Reception and forwarding, the Charges of unpacking and repacking, will affect such woollen Goods as they can send us Ten per Cent. on the lowest Computation I can make; which ought greatly to lessen the Apprehensions of our Manufacturers; and if the woollen Goods they send us here to be dyed, pressed, and packed here, so as to be sent abroad, equally finished with the like Goods of our own Manufacture, they will be subject to a much greater Expence.

WHAT we suffer *Ireland* to gain by the Export of her Woollen manufactured Goods

Good from England, can be no Loss to us ; in many Instances we shall be Gainers, By encouraging them to manufacture their Wools, they will find it their own Interest to sell none of them to France, by which we shall be tempted to manufacture the more of our own.

BY prohibiting the Importation of Spanish Wools into Ireland, their Manufacturers will be obliged to work up more of their own Wools, and their People to wear more of their own Manufactures ; by which we shall have the less to fear from what they may be able to export.

BY lessening the Numbers of their fine Spinners, we shall encrease the Spinning of such worsted and woollen Yarn, as we want and take from them ; which are so useful and necessary in our manufacturing several Kinds of coarse Goods, for our Consumption, as well as Exportation.

BY allowing them to export their woollen Goods to Great Britain, Manufactories will be established in several Counties in Ireland ; their Nobility and Gentry will have such Advantages by the Settlement of Work-

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men on their Estates, that they will find it their own Interest to discourage the running of Wools, and to forbid their Tenants to be aiding and assisting. By making Ireland a Nursery of Spinners for England, we shall have Plenty of their Spinning; and by making England a Magazine for Irish woollen Goods, fully manufactured, our Merchants will have a Commission on Reception and forwarding, our Dyers a Profit on such white Goods as they shall send us; our Pressers the Benefit of packing, and our Shipping of better Employment. By a good Understanding between England and Ireland, our Manufacturers will be brought into greater Esteem abroad; we then shall have nothing to fear from the low Price of Labour in France, with respect to coarse Goods, which has obliged us for Years past to manufacture such Goods as would sell, although they brought Discredit to our Country.

BT our woollen Goods being demanded Abroad, in proportion as France is unable to supply, our Landed Gentlemen will find their Rents better paid, and their Lands let at higher Value. The increase of our woollen Manufactures will keep up the
Price

Price of the Product of the Lands; as Demand for Goods not only employs our Poor, but causes the Advance of the Price. The Product of the Lands of England is a considerable Part of every Manufacture; our Rents are but the Value paid for the Product of the Lands; therefore all the additional Labour we encourage, which pays to the Product of the Lands, is so much added to the Rents of the Kingdom.

BY preventing France from procuring the raw Wools of Ireland, we shall not only undersell her, but speedily put it out of her Power to answer the Demands of those foreign Countries, which she has for many Years past been able to supply.

BY permitting Ireland to export such Goods, as she may manufacture of her own Wools, the Gentlemen of that Kingdom may be prevailed on to wear no Spanish Cloths, but such as we manufacture. The Advantage of which I shall shew.

I HAVE already computed, that the Spanish Wools Ireland imported last Year, might be manufactured into Two Thousand Two Hundred and Eighty Pieces of Cloth, which, supposing each Cloth Twenty-six Yards, would be Fifty-seven Thousand Yards. I find that from the 25th of March 1743, to the 25th of March 1744, the Importations of Spanish Cloths into Ireland were Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-one Yards and One Quarter; therefore the yearly Consumption of Spanish Cloths in Ireland, seems to me to be Seventy-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-one Yards One Quarter. We cannot prevent France from supplying foreign Countries with their Spanish Cloths; by their Situation they always will have the Spanish Wools cheaper than we can, and the low Price of Labour, and Cheapness of Provisions, in those Provinces of France, where Spanish Cloths are manufactured, will ever enable them to vie with, if not underset us in that Manufacture. Their Colours are as good as ours, and their Wools as fine. But we have Advantages peculiar to this Nation, which they cannot take from Us. Their Cloths want the Firmness in their Texture and Milling, that our
Cloths

Cloths have, without which they never can dress them as we do; and if a small Encouragement, by Bounty on Exportation, was given by Parliament, on such Spanish Cloths, as we export to the Levant only, I am humbly of Opinion, we should wholly supply both the Turks and the Persians.

THEREFORE, since we have so powerful a Rival as France in our Spanish Wool Manufacture, which of all our Manufactures deserves our greatest Attention, we should endeavour, by all prudent Ways, to encourage and support it at Home. Our silken Manufactures greatly depend on it. A Bale of Spanish Cloths amount to a large Sum of Money; consequently, it is a Means of increasing our Balances against those Countries, from which we receive a Balance by our Commerce, and on the other Hand, of preventing a Balance being too heavy against Us with those Countries, which by our large Imports may have a Balance against Us.

BY the modern Dress of our Nobility, Gentry and Merchants, this Manufacture appears daily decreasing among our selves. I am convinced, that the new fashion Goods we wear, have lessened our Consumption of
Spanish

Spanish Cloths two Fifths of what it was a few Years ago. If we suffer this Manufacture to decay, the French and Dutch will soon procure the Hands we employ; our Poor must quit the Country, or come to the Lands for a Maintenance; since it is well known, that a Woman, who has spent the best of her Days in spinning fine Wools, cannot bring her Fingers to make good Work by spinning of coarse. I have already shewn, that if we consent to the People of Ireland's exporting their surplus Wools, fully manufactured, the Value of them cannot exceed seventy-eight thousand seven hundred and fifty Pounds. And tho' we may think it our Interest, that no Spanish Cloths should be manufactured but in England, and to prohibit the Importation of Spanish Wools into Ireland, yet I am of Opinion, the Gentlemen of Ireland would wear but little of our Spanish Cloths, if we prevented their manufacturing (tho' it is demonstrably their own Interest) without giving them, in lieu thereof, a Liberty of exporting such woollen Goods as they could manufacture of their own Wools.

THE Consumption of Spanish Cloths, in that Country last Year, appears to be Seventy-seven Thousand Nine Hundred Eighty-one Yards; and we may expect they will yearly consume

consume an equal Quantity; which at Sixteen Shillings per Yard, will amount to £. 62,385

THEREFORE if they wear no Spanish Cloths, but what we manufacture, and we agree to their Exportation of such woollen Goods as they may manufacture, more than are requisite for their own Consumption, the Balance we should yearly pay them would be but a Trifle, if they took no woollen Goods from us but Spanish Cloths; whereas we do now, and always may depend, on supplying them, yearly, with all new fashion woollen Goods, that are worn here; since all dependent Kingdoms take their Fashions from the Place where the Court resides. We have had no Reason to repent of the Encouragement we have given to their Linen Manufactures; it has greatly enriched that Country, which has been thereby more improved, within these thirty Years past, than in One Hundred before. We take from them in Linens, Five Hundred Thousand Pounds per Annum, besides what they send directly to our Plantations, and other Countries; whereas, according to Dr. Davenant's Report, in the Year 1713, their whole Exports of Linen were computed at only Eighty Thousand Pounds. We continue to give their Linens the Preference of all others;

others; and since we contribute so largely to support and encourage that Manufacture, they ought in Gratitude to support (as far as in their Power lies) a Manufacture, that is of as great Consequence to England, as the Linens are to that Kingdom.

THEREFORE I am humbly of Opinion, that a Union between England and Ireland, with respect to their woollen Manufactures, must be advantageous to both Kingdoms, and will be the Means of effectually preventing France from procuring the Wools of that Country.

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